

Minutes of the Library, Media and Computing Committee
Tuesday, September 19, 1995

Present: Raney Ellis, Gary Peterson, John Woodward, Don Share, Mott Greene, John Hanson, Chuck Hommel, Marilyn Mitchell, Kris Bartanen, Mary Rose Lamb

Kris Bartanen convened the meeting at 9 a.m. in Library 134. Nominations for committee chair were solicited. John Hanson's vitriolic campaign rhetoric intimidated Woodward, Peterson and Share into withdrawing their candidacies. Hanson was elected by acclamation and to sighs of relief.

After introducing committee members, Hanson inquired about unresolved business from 1994-1995. Improving the library and computing skills of incoming students, and continuing to improve the Media Services area of the library were noted as areas to be discussed this year.

In response to Hanson's request for new agenda items for 1995-1996, the following suggestions were offered:

1. A survey of faculty use of technology to assess their needs.
2. Opportunities for faculty training and development in the area of technology.
3. Acquisition and availability of new projection equipment.
4. Policies on the appropriate protocol and uses of e-mail, and improvement of off-campus access to it.
5. A review of the budget of the Office of Information Services.
6. An analysis of how budget allocations for library, media and computing can be better coordinated in the future.
7. An assessment of new CD-Rom storage technology that could soon replace video tapes.
8. Determination of who should tend to long range technology planning.
9. Continuing space problems in the library, and the need to selectively reduce some of the library's holding. The LMAC could review this process.
10. The need to upgrade the library's music holding, much of which is on poor quality cassette recordings.
11. Discussion of the problem of the spread of computer viruses via the network.
12. Discussion of the problem of security of student records as they become more accessible to faculty.

Hanson appointed a subcommittee (Gary Peterson-convenor, Hommel, Woodward, Greene and Share) to develop a draft of a faculty technology survey.

The committee then heard a report from Raney Ellis. He described the reorganization of the different computer-related departments at the University. There are now four computing groups within the Office of Information Systems. 1) Academic Computing and Desktop Services, under Tom Aldrich, will support all campus desktop computing, including the computer labs. 2) Operations will tend to data entry and scheduling. 3) Central Database Support will oversee administrative computing and records management. 4) Technical and Network Services will deal with hardware problems. The four groups will meet regularly and coordinate their activities. Plans for faculty development in the area of computer technology will be presented to the LMAC.

Marilyn Mitchell then reported on the summer work to reorganize the Media Services section of the library, responding in part to the LMAC's proposals from 1994-1995. The basement of the library has been reconfigured to accommodate student and faculty computer workstations. These workstations will allow students to work on computer programs that are used in courses, and will allow faculty to use shared software that might not be available on desktop computers. Mitchell described the creation of a new Library Computing Technician to help staff, faculty and students with library computing problems. Funds have also been made available to convert some music holdings from cassette to CD.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 3, 9 a.m.

Submitted by Don Share